

4th March 1925]

**Provincial Civil Service.**

*Appointment of Diwan Bahadur R. Ramachandra Rao, C.S.I.,  
as Collector of Madras.*

\* 309 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Diwan Bahadur R. Ramachandra Rao, c.s.i., a member of the Madras Civil Service, was appointed permanently to the office of Secretary to the Government of Madras in 1917 with the approval of the Secretary of State in Council under section 100 of the Government of India Act on the special representation of the Government of Madras;

(b) whether he continued as Secretary to the Government of Madras till December 1924;

(c) whether he has since that date been posted as Collector of Madras, a post lower in rank and status to that of Secretary to Government;

(d) whether the said posting had the approval of the Government of India and the Secretary of State; and

(e) if not, under what authority the Local Government acted?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) Mr. Ramachandra Rao was Secretary to Government, Law Department, till 12th April 1924, when he was placed on special duty in the Revenue Department. He continued on special duty (with the exception of the period from 29th May to 28th September 1924 when he was on leave) till 3rd December 1924. He was posted as Collector of Madras and took charge of the office on 4th December 1924. The post of Collector is not lower in rank and status than that of a junior Secretary.

(d) The approval of the Government of India and the Secretary of State was not obtained.

(e) The posting was a matter within the powers of the Local Government.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"I want to know from the Finance Member with reference to section 100 of the Government of India Act, whether as a matter of fact, Diwan Bahadur R. Ramachandra Rao's appointment was approved by the Secretary of State as required by that section."

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM:—"The answer is as in clause (a) of the answer."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Then, with reference to clauses (b) and (c) of this question, may I ask the reasons why Diwan Bahadur Ramachandra Rao was posted as Collector when he was acting as Secretary to Government?"

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM:—"The posting of officers is a matter for the Government's discretion."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Is there any case of any Secretary to Government having been posted before now, as Collector?"

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM:—"There are cases."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Of men appointed under section 100 of the Government of India Act?"

The hon. Mr. R. A. GRAHAM:—"I cannot say that."